



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Office of Health Services
Medical Care Programs

PT 22-06

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor - Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor - S. Anthony McCann, Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
Nursing Home Transmittal No. 198

January 25, 2006

TO: Nursing Home Administrators
FROM: Susan J. Tucker, Executive Director
Office of Health Services

NOTE: Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.

RE: Reimbursement for the Cost of Saline and Heparin in IV Therapy

The Food and Drug Administration considers saline and heparin, when used to maintain intravenous lines, as supplies, not prescription drugs. Therefore, for the past year the Federal Rebate Program has not allowed Medicaid Pharmacy Programs to cover the cost of prescriptions for saline and heparin when used for this purpose.

Effective immediately, the cost of saline and heparin used to maintain intravenous lines is an allowable nursing facility supply cost and may be reported on Schedule D of the Nursing Home Uniform Cost Report. These costs will also be allowed for cost report periods back to January 1, 2005. Cost reports that have already been submitted should not be amended. Documentation of these costs should be presented at cost settlement.

Any questions regarding this transmittal should be directed to the Nursing Home Section of the Division of Long Term Care Services at (410) 767-1736.

SJT/seh

cc: Nursing Home Liaison Committee